IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: VICTOR SCHOENLE et al. Confirmation No.: 2738

Serial No.: 10/669,059 Examiner: Walter Aughenbaugh

Filing Date: SEPTEMBER 23, 2003 Group Art Unit: 1794

Docket No.: 1001.2325101 Customer No.: 28075

Title: MEDICAL DEVICE COMPONENTS AND PROCESSES

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The undersigned hereby certify that this paper(s), as described herein, is being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below

Thu H. Le-To

MAY 13, 2010

Date

Dear Sir:

Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for the Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due and the Notice of Allowability mailed February 16, 2010. With regard to the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance, while applicant believes that the claims are allowable, applicant does not acquiesce that patentability resides in each feature, or a single feature, as exactly stated by the Examiner, or as exactly as expressed in the claims, nor that each feature is required for patentability. Applicants believe that there are additional reasons that the claims can be distinguished from the prior art, other than the reasons stated by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 17, 1810

J. Scot Wickhem, Reg. No. 41,376

CROMPTON, SEAGER & TUFTE, LLC

1221 Nicollet Avenue, Suite 800

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403-2420

Telephone: (612) 677-9050 Facsimile: (612) 359-9349